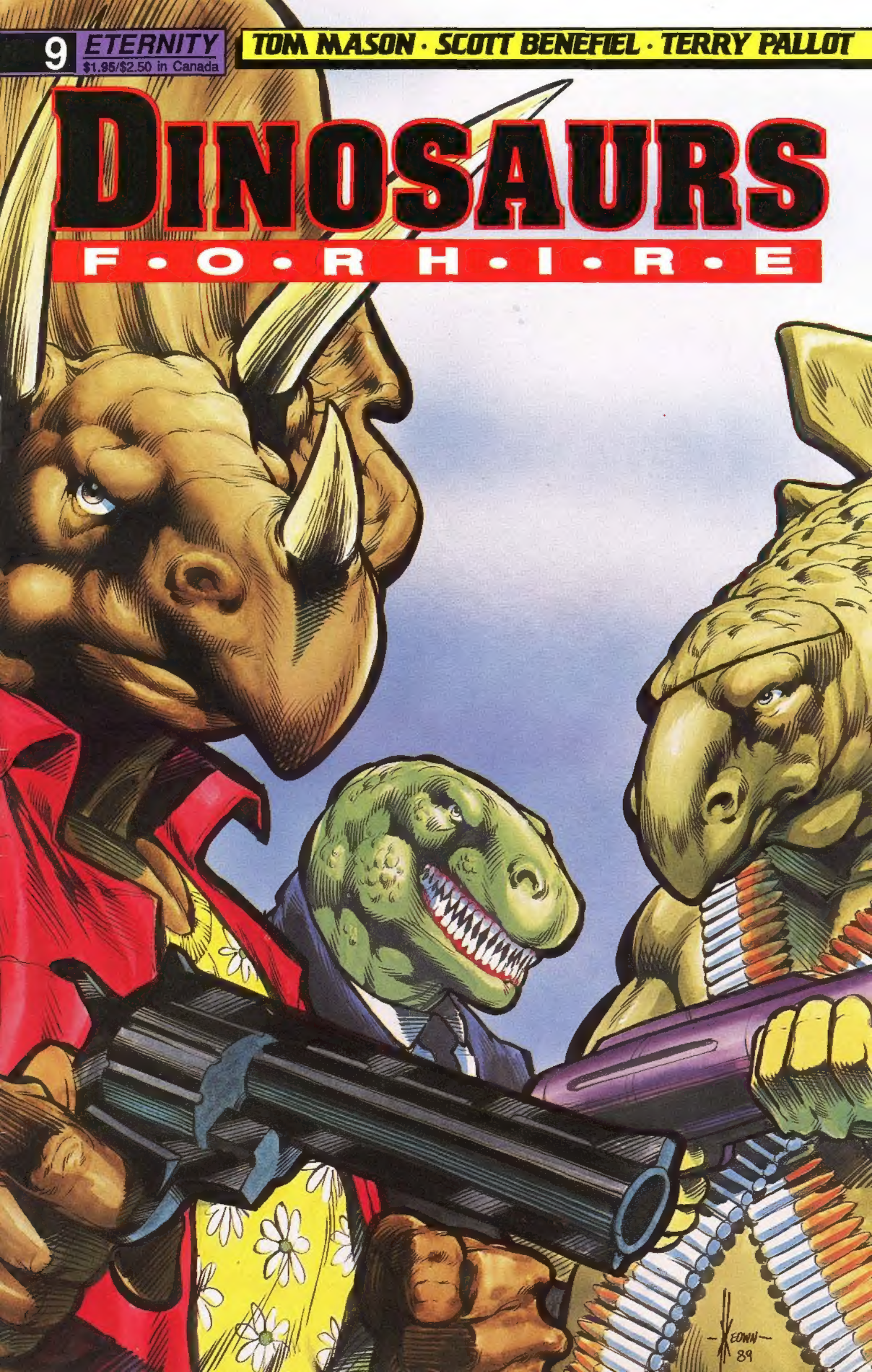
9 ETERNITY
$1.95/$2.50 in Canada

TOM MASON · SCOTT BENEFIEL · TERRY PALLOT

DINOSAURS FOR HIRE



DINOSAURS FOR HIRE

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SCOTT BENEFIEL
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Dinosaurs For Hire: All right, here's what's happening--there are these three big Dinosaurs: Archie (the Tyrannosaurus), Lorenzo (the Triceratops) and Reese (the Stegosaurus). They walk, they talk, they watch television and shoot things.

In past issues, they've fought vampires, government officials, giant cats, and a handful of miscreant samurai.

Now, they're journeying back in time in a little tale we like to call "When Dinosaurs Ruled The Earth." If that's not worth $1.95, then I don't know what is.

***Dinosaur* Notes:** Now that you've scraped your money together and purchased your copy of **Guns N'Lizards**, the **Dinosaurs For Hire** Graphic Novel collecting the first three issues, it's time to dig even deeper into your pockets and do it again.

Dinosaurs For Hire #4-6 are being collected for release under the title **Dinosaurs Rule!**, (the original title was **Let's Party!**) complete with a cover by Darren Goodhart (he's done some wild **Spicy Tales** cover and he's illustrating Adventure Comics' new **Retief** comic, adapting those outrageous Keith Laumer stories).

DINOSAURS FOR HIRE #9
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BSG

TO THE LAND THAT TIME FORGOT OR BUST
HAVE WE GOT EVERYTHING WE NEED-- CAMERAS, EXTRA FILM, BLANKETS, FLASHLIGHTS...?
HEY! BE CAREFUL WITH MY SNICKERS BARS, TIME TRAVEL ALWAYS MAKES ME HUNGRY.
WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH
AN EXERCISE IN TIME TRAVEL BY
TOM MASON - CREATOR/WRITER
SCOTT BENEFIEL - PENCILLER
TERRY PALLOT - INKER
DAN NAKROSIS - LETTERER

I STILL DON'T SEE WHY WE HAVE TO GO.
BECAUSE WE OWE DOCTOR KOWALSKI A FAVOR, ARCHIE.
HE WANTS US TO RESEARCH HIS BOOK ON THE EARTH'S PREHISTORY, AND THAT'S WHAT WE'LL DO.

BESIDES, IT'LL BE FUN. DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR COUSINS?
YEAH, LIKE I WANT TO SEE ROSEANNE BARR NAKED.

OKAY, PROFESSOR. WE'RE LOADED AND READY TO GO.
THEN LET'S DO IT, SMITH.

FAMILY TREE, HERE WE COME!
WOOSH!
NOW, EASE UP ON THE CLUTCH!
CONTACT!
KRAKKKI!

KA-Bloop!
LOOK, THERE'S RICHARD NIXON!
WOW! I CAN SEE McLEAN STEVENSON'S CAREER!
I'M GETTING DIZZY! THIS IS WORSE THAN THE TEA-CUP RIDE AT DISNEYLAND!
I SEE LONDON, I SEE FRANCE...
IF ANYONE SEES AN ITALIAN DELI, LET ME KNOW!
HOW MUCH LONGER, PROFESSOR? I THINK I'M GETTING A HEMORRHOID!
I HAVE TO PEE!
WE'RE COMING OUT OF IT NOW!
HANG ON!
I TOLD YOU TO GO BEFORE WE LEFT!
3

WUMP!

I'LL GET THE THOMAS GUIDE!
SURF'S UP!

START UNLOADING. I WANT TO BE READY BEFORE NIGHTFALL...
BE CAREFUL WITH THAT BOX...

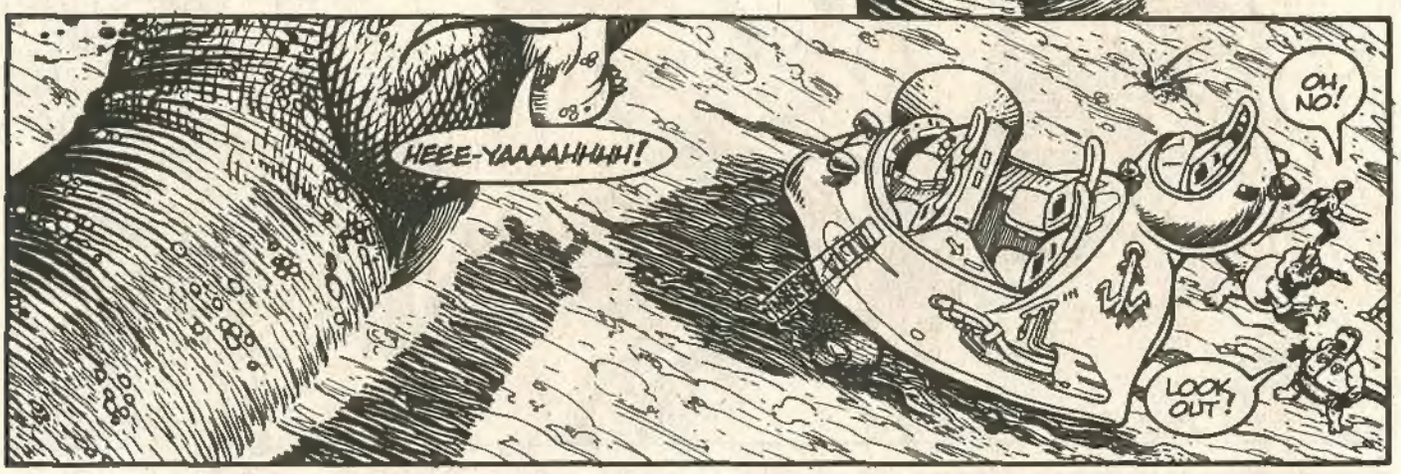
...IT'S GOT THE NEW ISSUE OF PEOPLE...

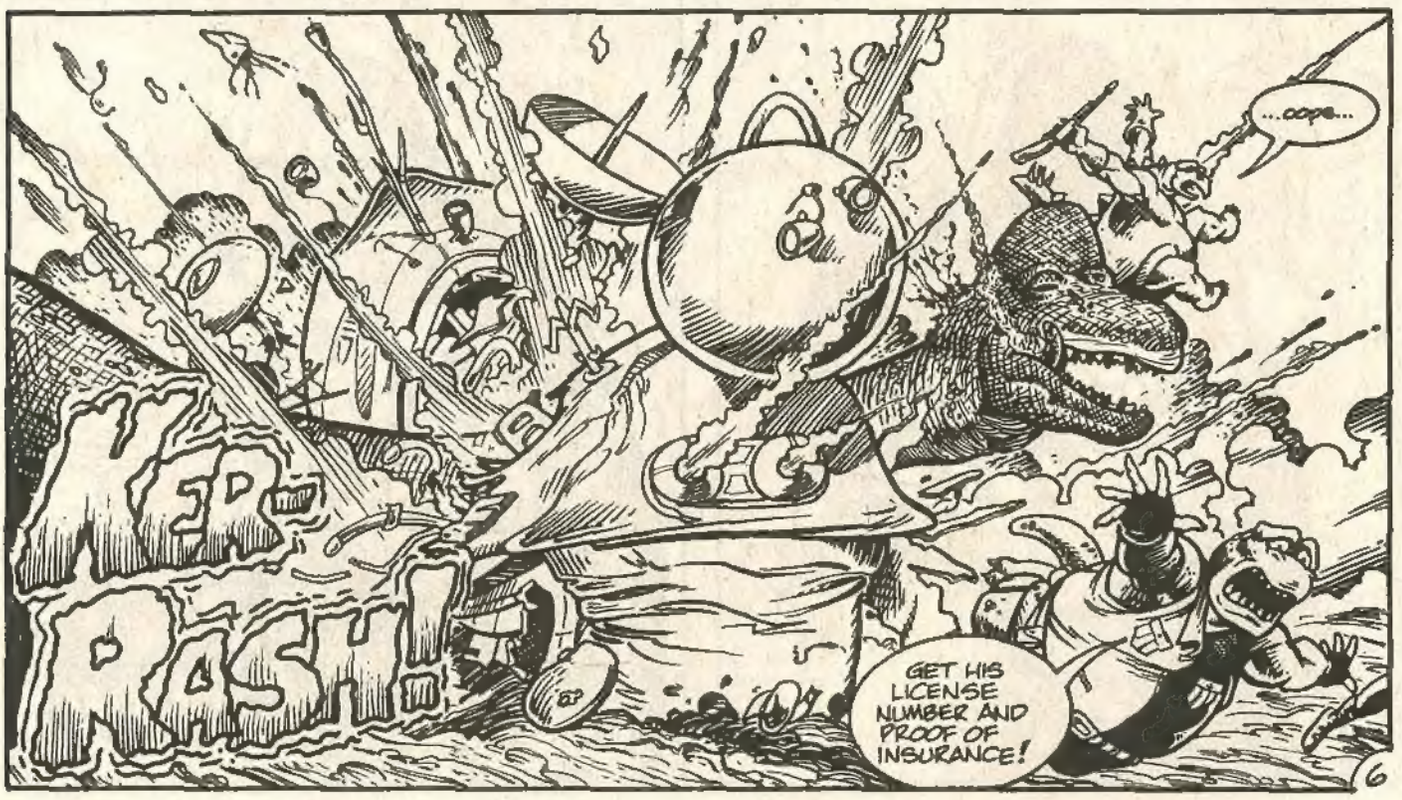
...MPHF...
GUP!
EEP.

"E" TICKET!
"E" TICKET!
DAMMIT, HE'S GOT REESE!
JESUS...
BIG DEAL. HE CAN HANDLE IT.

THIS GUY HAS GOT TO LEARN TO FLOSS!
HACK
FXAF
WHEEZ

MAYBE NOT.
THOOM!


HEEE-YAAAAHHHH!
OH, NO!
LOOK OUT!


...oops...
FER RASH!
GET HIS LICENSE NUMBER AND PROOF OF INSURANCE!

ANYBODY SEE A SEARS AUTO CENTER AROUND HERE?
DAMMIT! NOW I HAVE TO WAIT 200 MILLION YEARS FOR THE NEXT EPISODE OF "SHE'S THE SHERIFF!"

WHAT DO WE DO NOW, BOSS?
MIGHT AS WELL START SALVAGING WHAT WE CAN.

AND START SKINNING THIS THING FOR DINNER.
WE'RE GOING TO BE HERE FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.

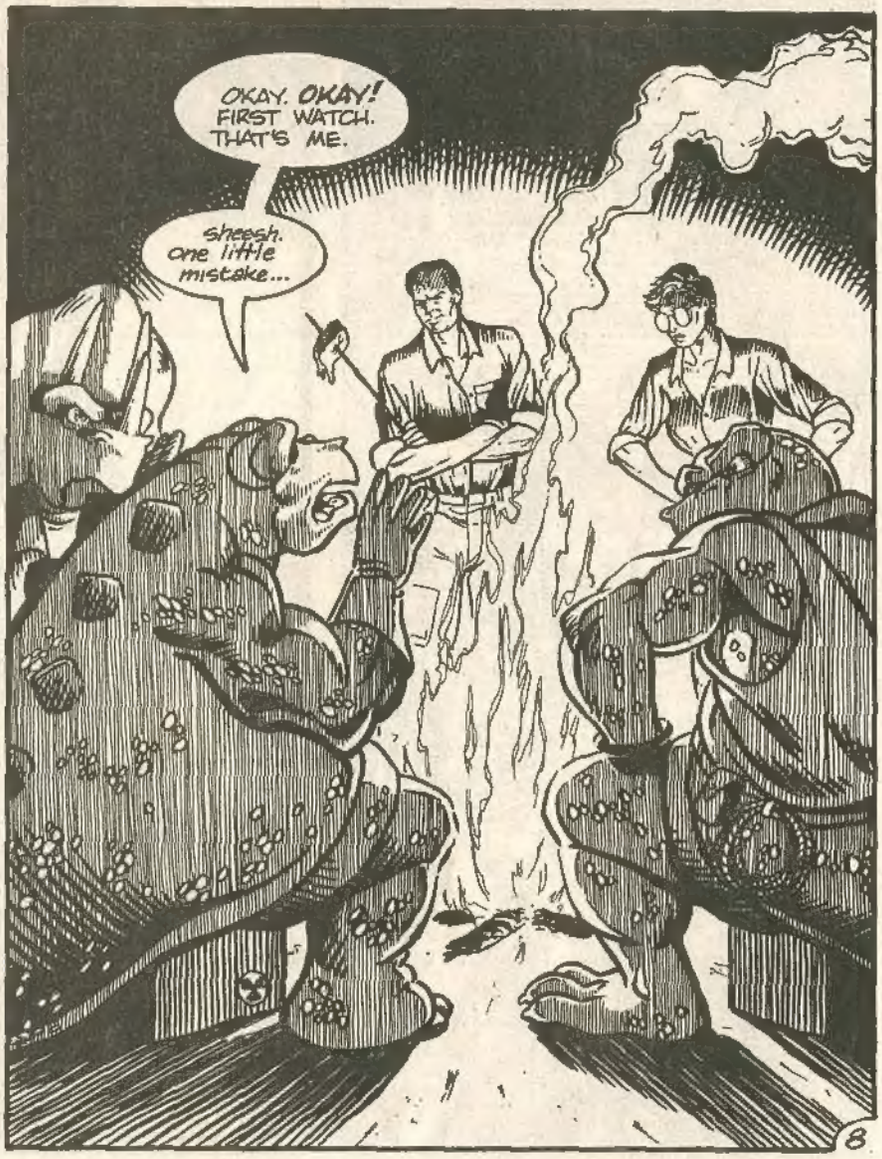
C'MON GUYS, HELP ME ROLL HIM OVER.
HE'S ON TOP OF MY SNICKERS BARS.
GUYS?

AND SO...
Y'KNOW, FOR AS BIG AS HE WAS, THERE SURE WASN'T A LOT OF FAT ON HIM. NOT TOO MUCH GRISTLE EITHER.
BURP!
IT STILL DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT.

I MEAN, THESE GUYS ARE LIKE RELATIVES OR SOMETHING.
THIS ALMOST MAKES US CANNIBALS ... I DON'T LIKE IT.

HEY! ANYBODY GOT THE SALT?
GRAB!!

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET SOME SLEEP. WE'LL START EXPLORING AT SUN UP.
REESE TAKES THE FIRST WATCH.
ME? WHY ME?


OKAY. OKAY! FIRST WATCH. THAT'S ME.
sheesh. one little mistake...

THE MEN IN BLACK

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THEY'RE FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

THEY'RE HERE TO HELP.

SORT OF.

Created & Written by Lowell Cunningham

Illustrated by Sandy Carruthers

Coming in January

AIRCEL COMICS

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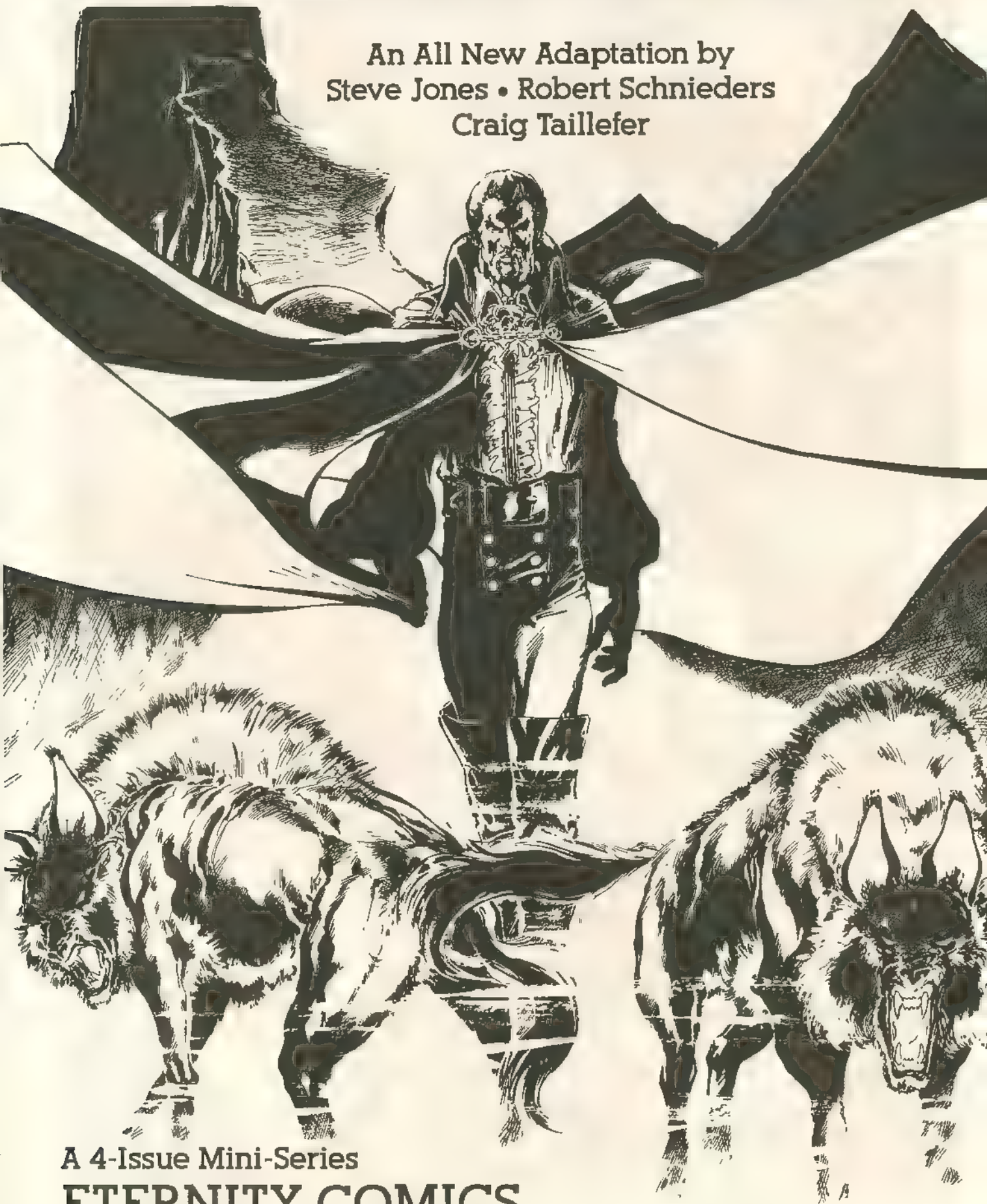

A 4-Issue Mini-Series

ETERNITY COMICS

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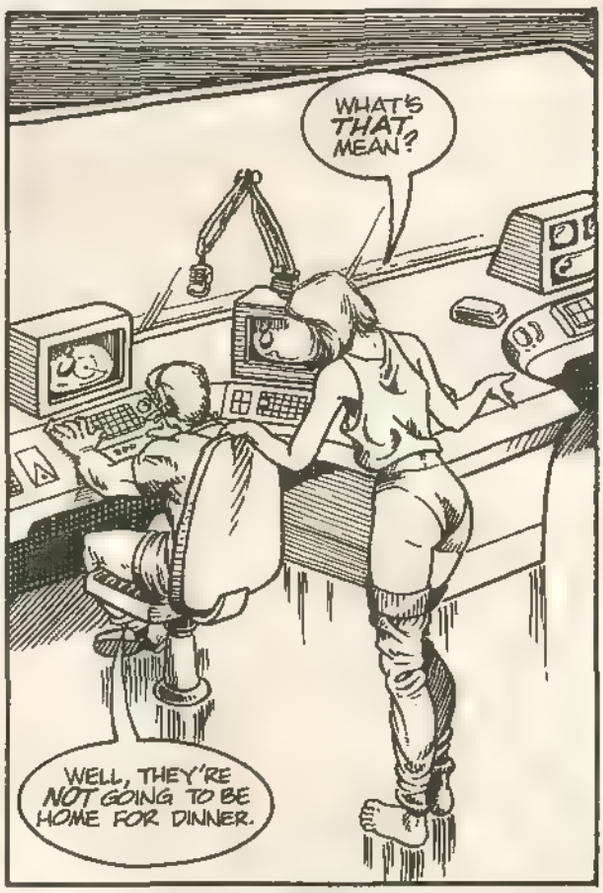
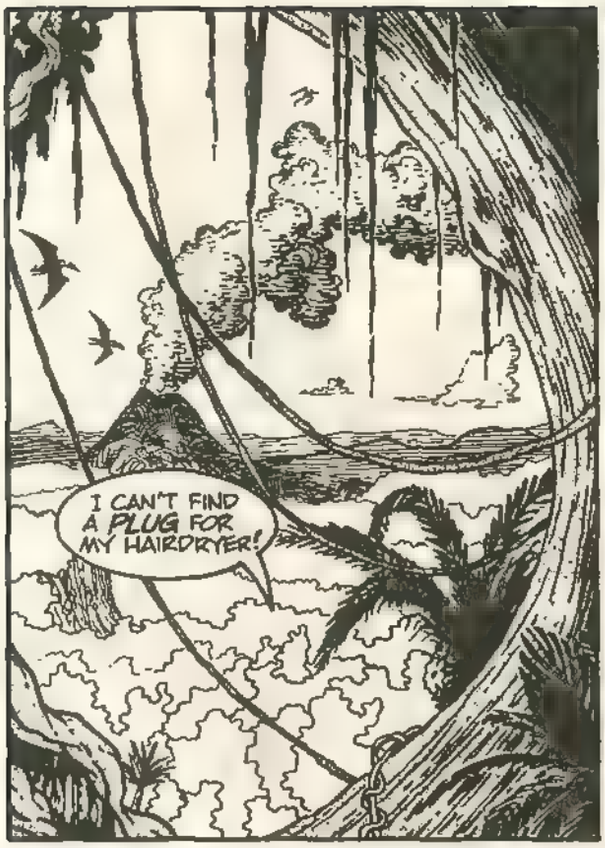
MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE PRESENT. GEORGE BUSH IS STILL IN CHARGE OF THE COUNTRY.
DAMN.
BEEP!
UH, OH.
FIRE

WHAT IS IT, RED?
I'VE LOST THEIR SIGNAL.
SOMETHING MUST'VE HAPPENED TO THE TIME TRAVELLER.
Just a Reminder...
NORAD PASSWORD: JOSHUA


WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
WELL, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE HOME FOR DINNER.

AND IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING QUICK, THEY MAY NOT MAKE IT BACK FOR THE NEW FALL SEASON.

HELLO, PROFESSOR STEAMHEAD?


I CAN'T FIND A PLUG FOR MY HAIRDRYER!

AND I CAN'T GET A DECENT FM STATION.
OKAY, EVERYBODY. TEN MINUTES.
WE'VE GONE ABOUT FIVE MILES SO FAR, PROFESSOR. LET'S TAKE A BREAK!

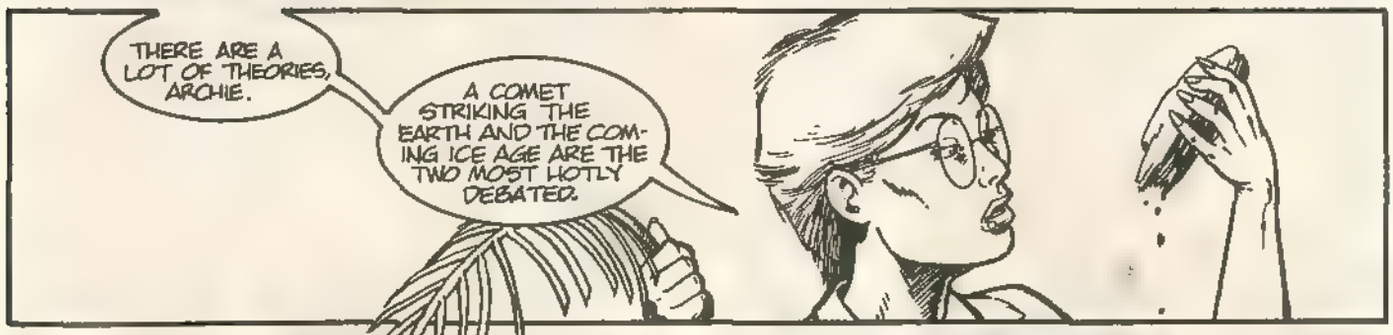
I SURE HOPE WE DON'T MEET ANY CAVEMEN.

WELL, I COULD REALLY GO FOR A COUPLE OF CAVEBABES RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT A WOMAN IN BEAR SKIN...

DON'T BE ABSURD, REESE.
IT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT CAVEMEN AND DINOSAURS LIVED IN TWO DIFFERENT ERAS.
POOP.

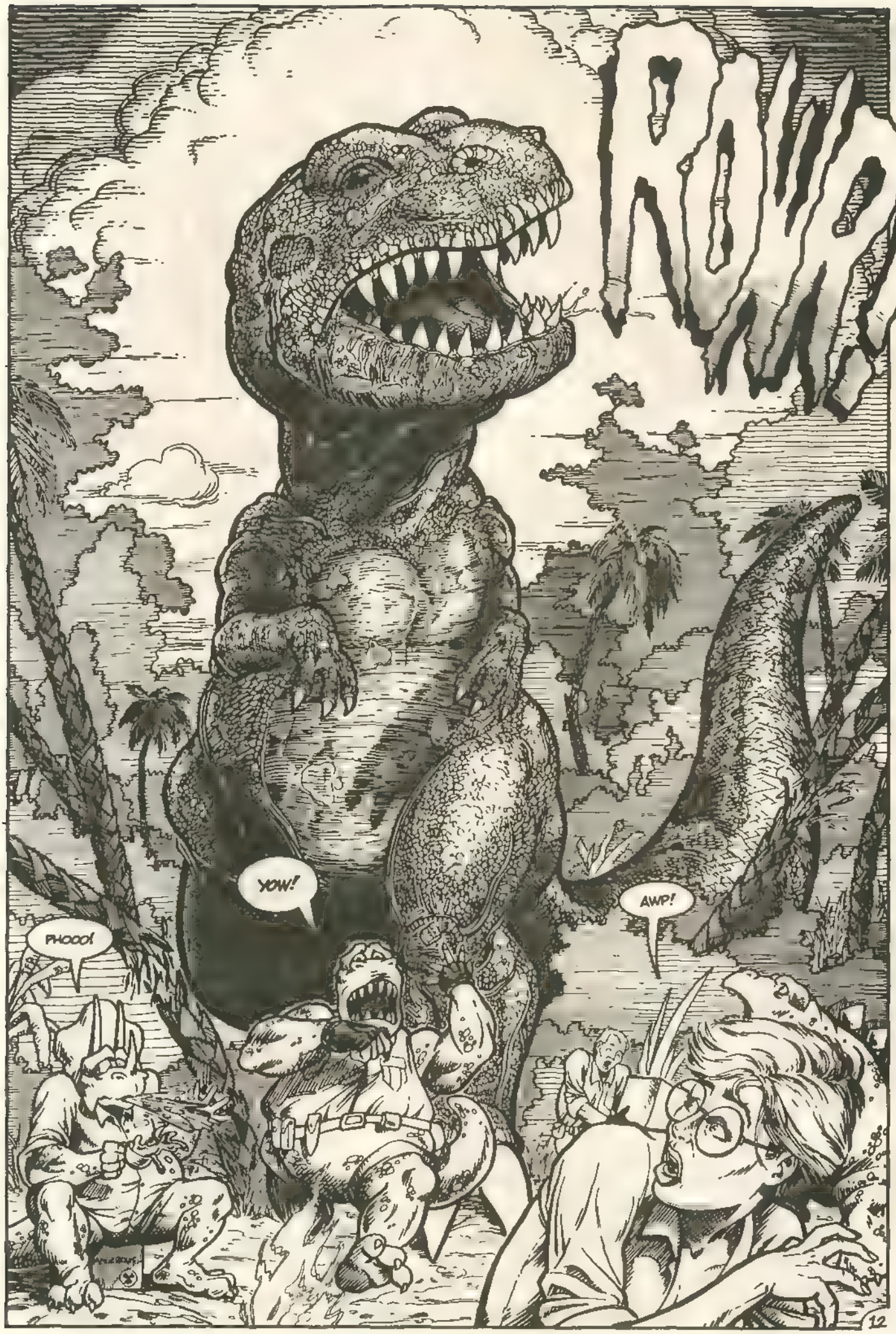
THE DINOSAURS WERE EXTINCT LONG BEFORE CAVEMEN SET FOOT ON THE PLANET.

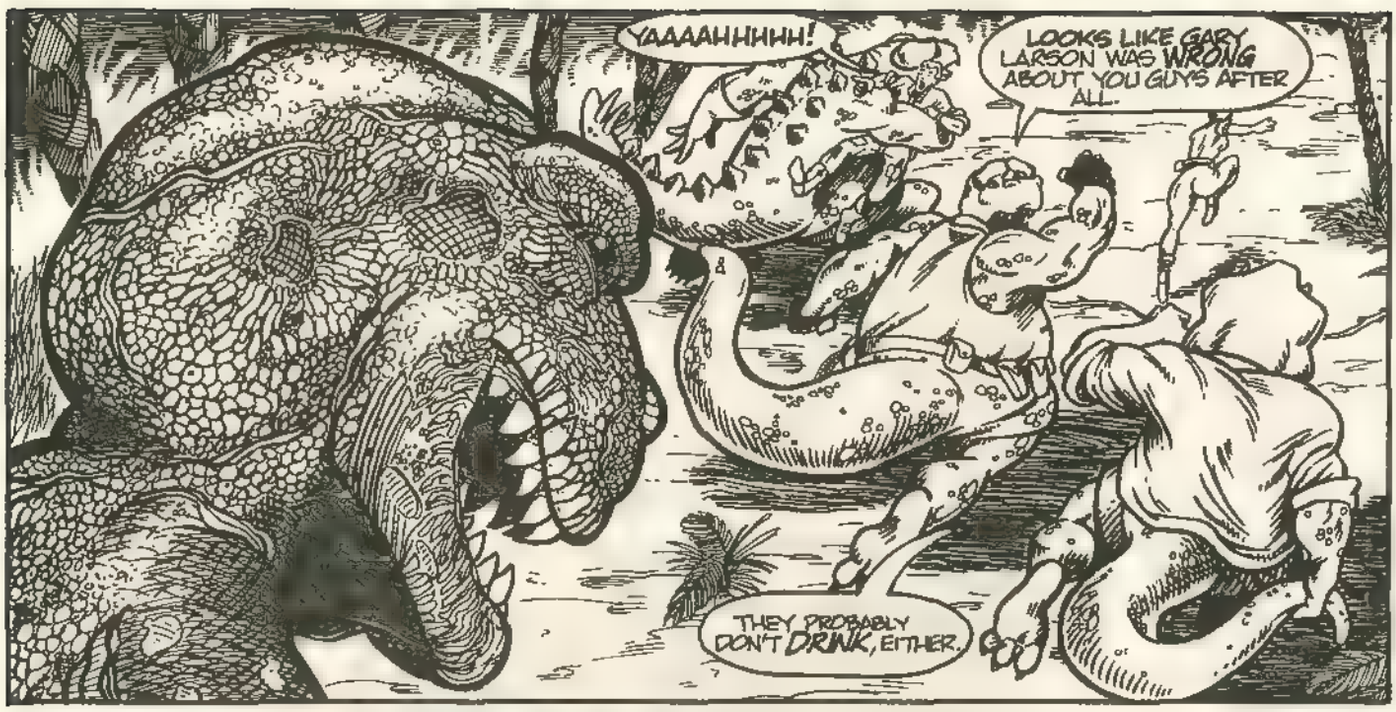
WHAT WIPED THEM OUT, PROFESSOR? INFLATION?
BAD CHINESE FOOD?
FOREIGN DEBT?

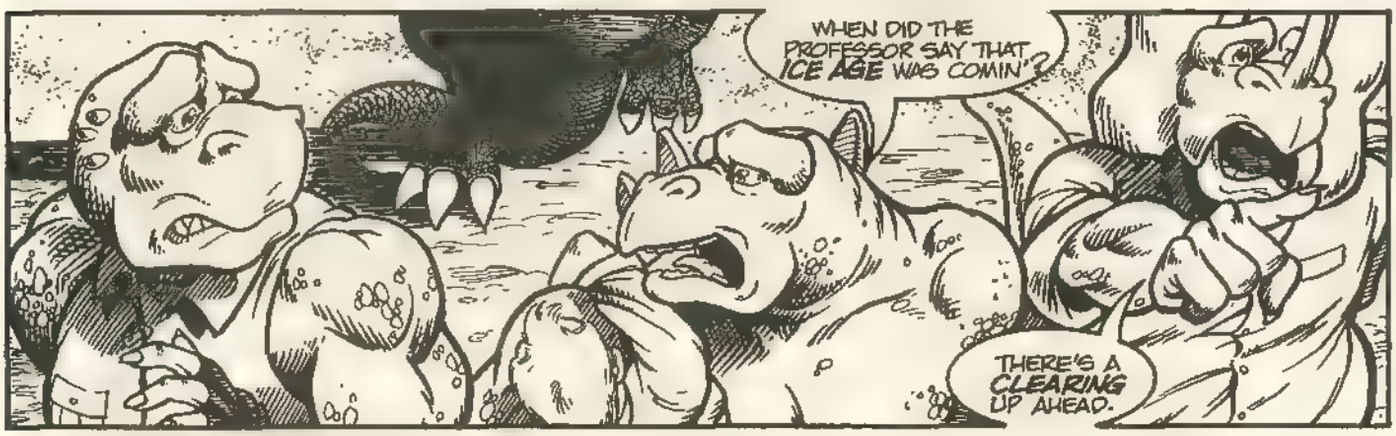

THERE ARE A LOT OF THEORIES, ARCHIE.
A COMET STRIKING THE EARTH AND THE COMING ICE AGE ARE THE TWO MOST HOTLY DEBATED.

WHATEVER WE FIND HERE SHOULD HELP THE GOOD DOCTOR ADVANCE HIS OWN THEORIES.
Womp!

HIYA, CUZ. CARE FOR A SMOKE?

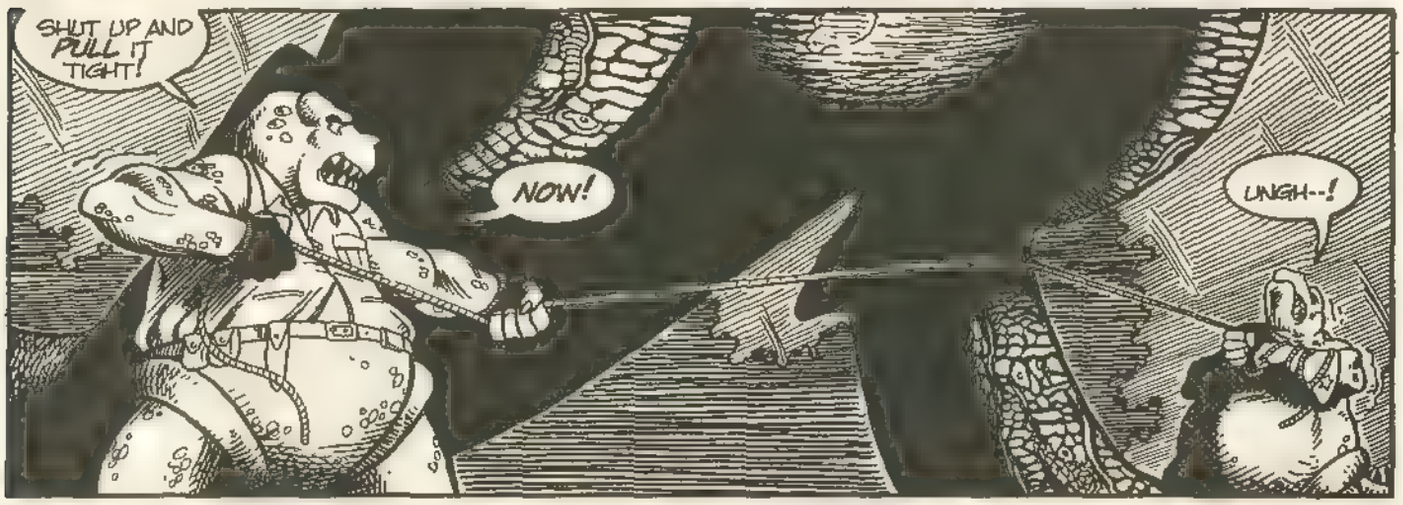

ROAR!
YOW!
PHOOO!
AWP!


YAAAAHHHHH!
LOOKS LIKE GARY LARSON WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU GUYS AFTER ALL.
THEY PROBABLY DON'T DRINK, EITHER.


WHEN DID THE PROFESSOR SAY THAT ICE AGE WAS COMIN'?
THERE'S A CLEARING UP AHEAD.

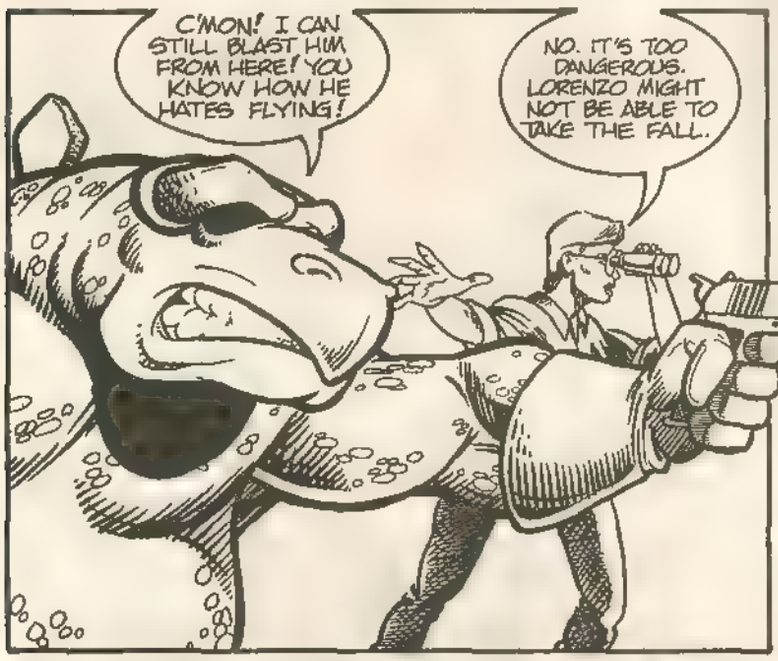
WHOA!
LOOK OUT! IT'S...
...A PRECIPICE...
...A CLIFF'S EDGE, TOO...
ACK!
SKID!
Brake!

HERE! GRAB THE END OF THIS ROPE!
HE MAY NOT WANT TO DOUBLE-DUTCH, ARCHIE.


SHUT UP AND PULL IT TIGHT!
NOW!
UNGH--!

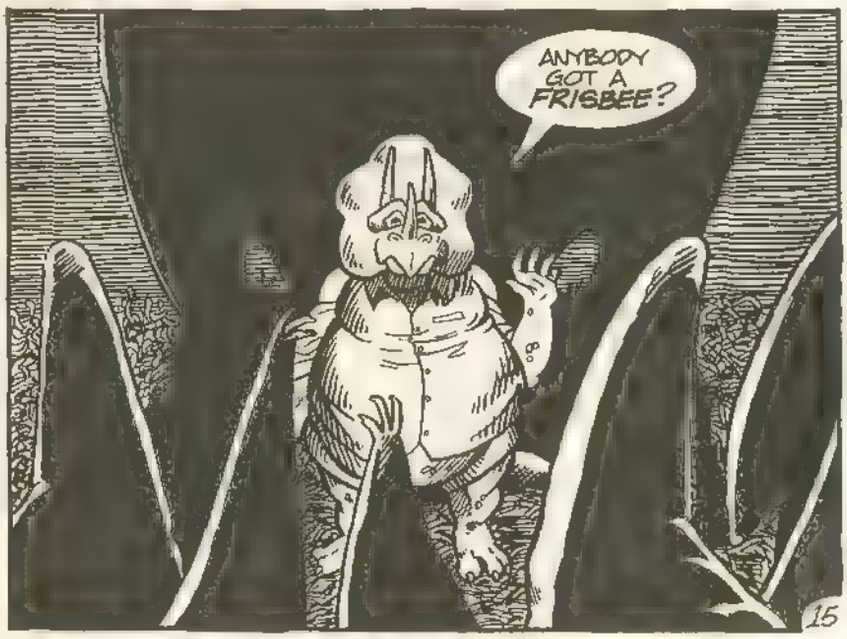
errr?
WATCH OUT FOR THAT FIRST STEP, CUZ.
ROAR!
BWOING!
GOOD THINKING, ARCHIE. THE KING OF BEASTS IS ALSO CLUMSY.
AND I ONLY GOT A MILD ROPE BURN

SUDDENLY, A PTERANODON SWOOPS IN FROM OFF-PANEL.
SWOOSH
HEY! A PTERANODON JUST SWOOPED IN FROM OFF-PANEL!
LORENZO! HANG ON!
GRAB
TELL HIM THAT!
OOOHH. I HOPE HE DIDN'T HAVE BEANS FOR BREAKFAST!


C'MON! I CAN STILL BLAST HIM FROM HERE! YOU KNOW HOW HE HATES FLYING!
NO. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS. LORENZO MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE THE FALL.

BUT I'VE GOT A FIX ON WHERE HE'S GOING.

HIYA, KIDS!


ANYBODY GOT A FRISBEE?

HELLO, PROFESSOR WAGSTAFF?
HI, THIS IS RED.
PINK FLOYD

YEAH. LONG TIME.
Prof. Steamhead
Dr. Wagstaff
Dr. Jonas Salk
Dr. London Smith
Dr. Ruth
Thor Heyerdahl
LISTEN, I NEED A FAVOR.
CAN I BORROW YOUR TIME MACHINE? WE'VE HAD A LITTLE TROUBLE WITH OURS AND...
I SEE...
BACK TO 1936 TO ASSASSINATE HITLER.

THAT SURE SOUNDS LIKE A PACKED WEEK-END. I'LL LET YOU GET TO IT.
THANKS, ANYWAY.
GIGGLE!

OH WELL, AT LEAST CHEER-LEADERS FROM HELL IS ON HBO TONIGHT.
CLICK!
OOOHH. AM I IN THAT ONE?

From The People Who Brought You
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LENSMAN

THE SECRET OF THE LENS

COMING IN FEBRUARY FROM
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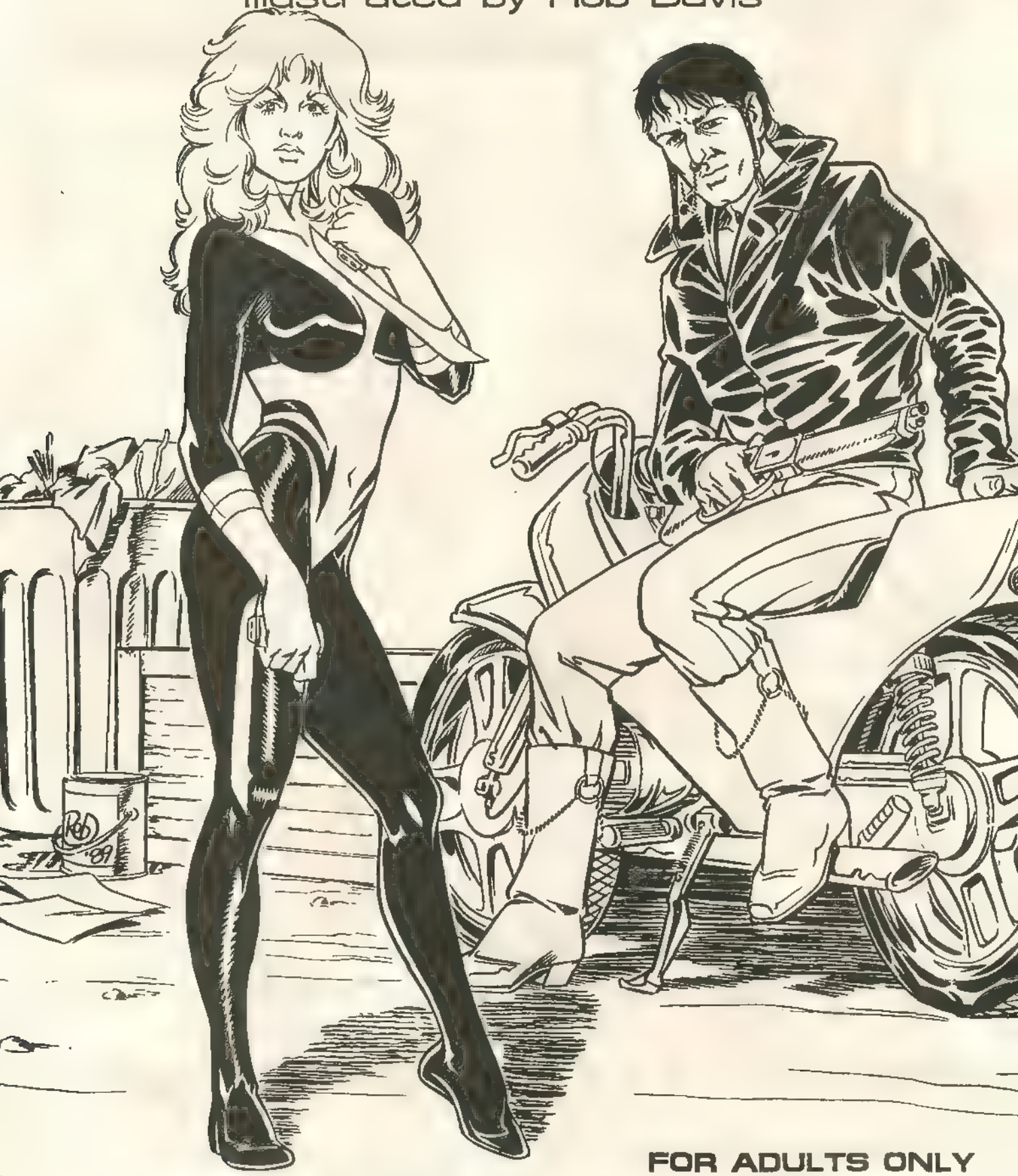
SCIMIDAR

BOOK III • ALL NEW STORY & ART

Created & Written by R.A. Jones

Illustrated by Rob Davis



FOR ADULTS ONLY

COMING IN JANUARY FROM ETERNITY COMICS

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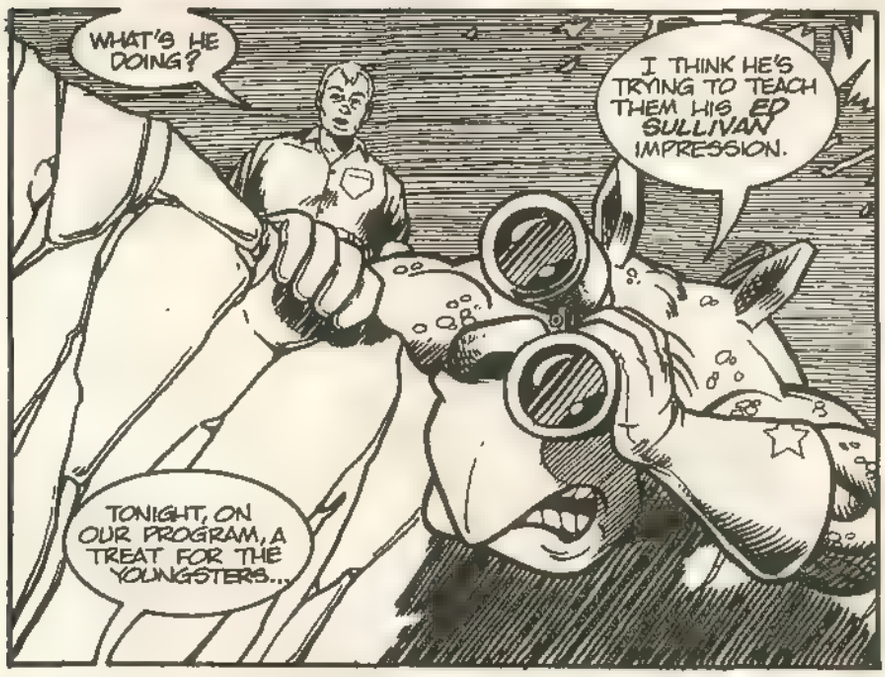
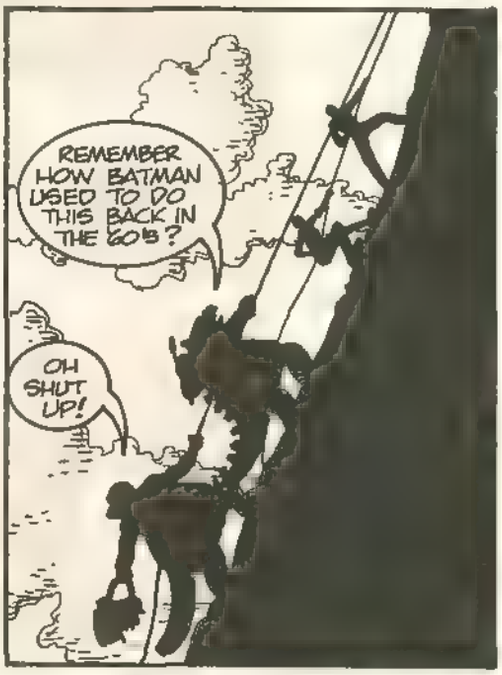
SPREAD OUT, YOU KNUCKLEHEADS!
?
?
!
WHAP!

WHEW! WHAT A CLIMB! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT TOOK US ONLY TWO PAGES!
CAN YOU SEE HIM DOWN THERE?
YEAH, HE'S STILL ALIVE. AND THE MOTHER'S GONE.


WHAT'S HE DOING?
I THINK HE'S TRYING TO TEACH THEM HIS ED SULLIVAN IMPRESSION.
TONIGHT, ON OUR PROGRAM, A TREAT FOR THE YOUNGSTERS...

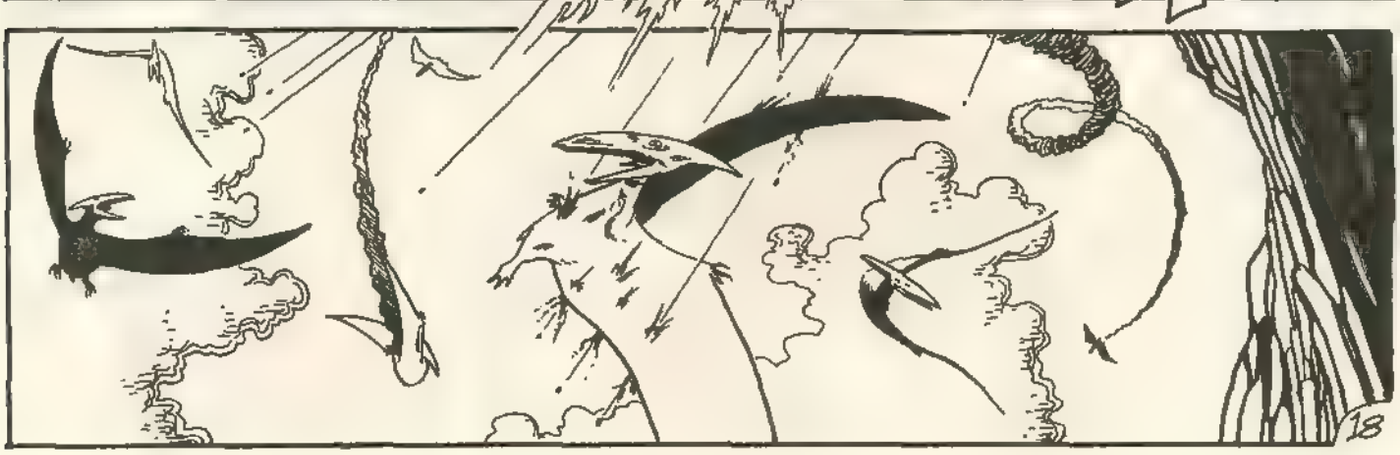

REMEMBER HOW BATMAN USED TO DO THIS BACK IN THE 60'S?
OH SHUT UP!

GLX!
SPTZL!
LORENZO!
MY FRIENDS!
GLAH!

UH, OH!
EEP!
LOCK AND LOAD, GENTLEMEN. SHE'S BACK, AND SHE'S BROUGHT HER BRIDGE CLUB!

IT'S TOO BAD HITCHCOCK ISN'T ALIVE TO SEE THIS.
HAND ME MY WINCHESTER...

BRRT
THOOM!
BRRTT
HA! THEY'RE FALLING LIKE DC-10'S!
POW!
BTTTTT
BRTTTT

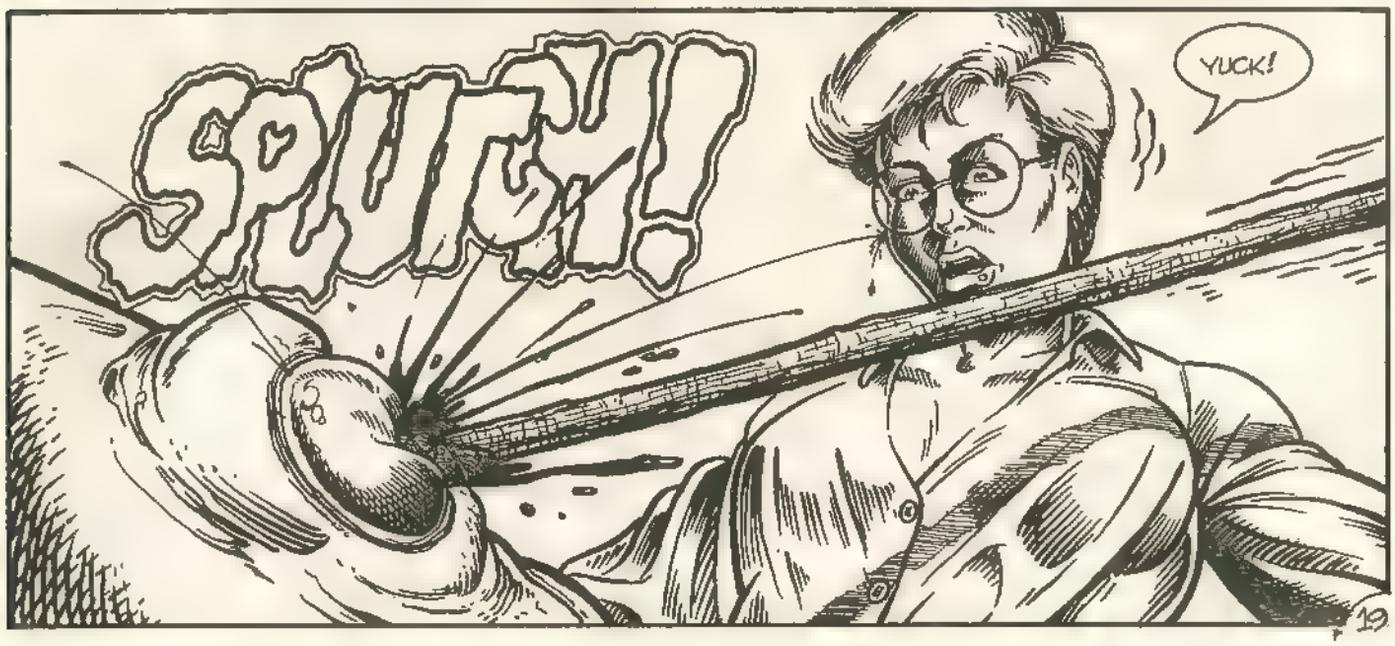


PULL BACK! THEY'RE TOO MANY!
BRRRST
BRRRST

PULL BACK TO WHERE?

AAAAHH!
SMITH!
CHOMP!

HANG ON, IF I CAN JUST...

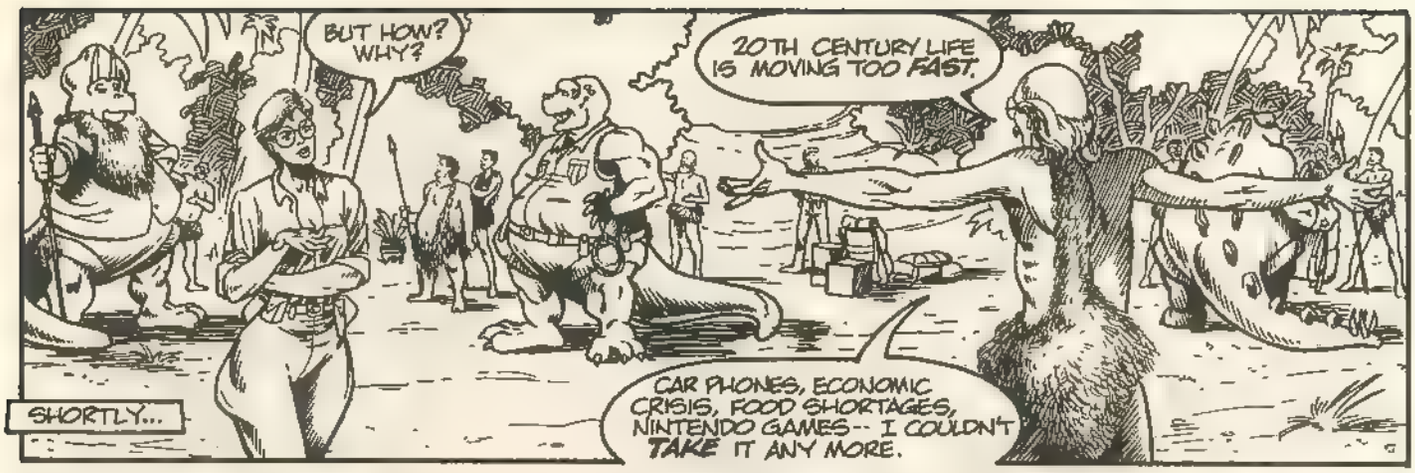

SPLUTCH!
YUCK!

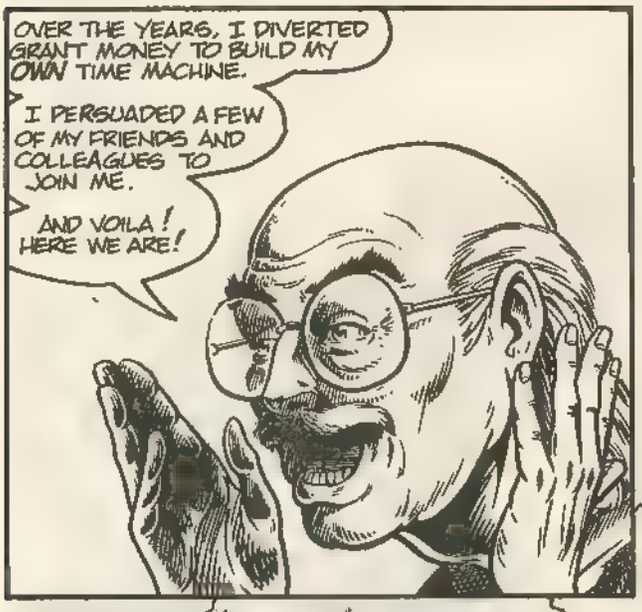
WE DID IT!
LET'S BOOK BEFORE THEY COME BACK!

THANKS FOR THE SPEAR, REESE. PERFECT TIMING.
IT WASN'T ME, PROFESSOR.

WELL, THEN WHO WAS IT?
IT COULD'VE BEEN THOSE GUYS.

GREETINGS, PROFESSOR TYRELL, AND WELCOME TO THE MESOZOIC ERA!
DR. LIVINGSTON, I PRESUME?
JONATHAN? DR. JONATHAN EDWARDS?
DO YOU HAVE A FAX MACHINE WE CAN BORROW?


BUT HOW? WHY?
20TH CENTURY LIFE IS MOVING TOO FAST.
SHORTLY...
CAR PHONES, ECONOMIC CRISIS, FOOD SHORTAGES, NINTENDO GAMES-- I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE.


OVER THE YEARS, I DIVERTED GRANT MONEY TO BUILD MY OWN TIME MACHINE.
I PERSUADED A FEW OF MY FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES TO JOIN ME.
AND VOILA! HERE WE ARE!

AND YOU'RE WELCOME TO JOIN US.
THANKS, BUT WE REALLY BELONG IN THE PRESENT. OUR TIME TRAVELLER BROKE AND WE'RE JUST KILLING TIME UNTIL MY ASSISTANT COMES FOR US.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT.

I'VE STILL GOT MINE. AND YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME TO IT.

GIVE ME AN "F"!
NICE POM POMS.
I DID MY OWN STUNTS, TOO!

HELLO, AMERICA!
DID YOU MISS US?
IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU WORKING SO HARD TO GET US BACK, RED.

BAMBI AND I ARE TAKING A BREAK.
NOW, MOVE OUT OF MY WAY. THIS IS MY FAVORITE PART.

WHISPER, WHISPER... BZZZZ, BZZZ ... WHISPER...

WAIT A MINUTE, GUYS. WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL OF OUR WEAPONS?

IT WAS REESE'S IDEA.
ME? WELL, YEAH, BUT I HAD HELP!
WE, UH, WE LEFT THEM WITH THE LOCALS, PROFESSOR.

SEEING AS HOW THEY SAVED YOUR LIFE AND ALL, WE DIDN'T THINK YOU'D OBJECT.
OBJECT?

YOU IDIOTS! YOU COULD CHANGE THE HISTORY OF THE ENTIRE WORLD!
I DON'T THINK SO. WE ONLY LEFT THEM A COUPLE OF CLIPS.
AND SOME GRENADES, AND A ROCKET LAUNCHER, I THINK.
THEY NEEDED A HOBBY!

I'M HITTING THE SHOWERS. THE JUNGLE ALWAYS CLOGS UP MY PORES.

NOT ME. I'M MAKING THE WORLD'S BIGGEST OMELET.

HEY! ARE WE OUT OF CHEESE AGAIN?

BRRRT!
BRRRT!
BRRRT!
K-POW
POW!
BRRT!
POW!
THE END?

MAILBOX FOR HIRE

Eternity Comics • 1355 Lawrence Drive #212 • Newbury Park, CA 91320

The good news is that Dinosaur research has reached an all-time high and that Dinosaurs are more related to the bird family than to the reptile familly like we learned in grade school. It seems that some of the Dinosaurs actually had hair and feathers.

What this means, of course, is that several of the jokes in this issue now have an accurate historical context.

Ain't science grand?

So, that's the good news. The not-so-good news is that Dinosaurs For Hire *will end with this issue.*

Oh, put away those Brontosaurus tears you silly fanboys. We'll be back. Right now we're working with a couple of goofballs who are trying to get a Dinosaurs For Hire *movie and cartoon show cookin' and all that precious Hollywood bullshit has taken valuable time away from the typewriter and wreaked havoc with the* Dinos *schedule.*

Once that's all out of the way and I'm treated to a few more expensive dinners by my phony show business friends, we'll be back with an all new run.

I, however, will still be writing the damned comic. You just can't turn your vision over to others. Or so they tell me.

Sigh.

Hey Gang,
Dinosaurs For Hire #8 was a welcome change of pace and scenery from the first few outings. And, as usual, I enjoyed it.

Particularly the descriptive sound effects and the handy dictionary.

And Terry Pallot's inks look quite good over Chuck's pencils. I hope he'll stay around for a while.

Seeya at Mundens,
Elvis Orten
Dawson Springs, KY

Glad you liked Terry's inks over Chuck's pencils. Chuck has departed the Dinos *for the presumably greener pastures of First Comics.*

Stepping into the breach this issue is Scott Benefiel, whose most recent work has been a few issues of Eternity's own Ex-Mutants.

I think he and Terry are a dynamite duo and did a terrific job on this issue. We'll have to get them back here, don't you agree?

Dear Dinos,
Three Dinos in traditional garb parading around feudal Japan displaying ninja technique is more than I can believe—turtles maybe but not Dinos. You have to hand it to Reese, Archie and Lorenzo, no matter where they go they sure know where to find the women. Must have something to do with Dino pheromones. Hey, wait a minute, all of this issue was just a dream. That's what I would call a cheap trick (just what I would expect from you guys). Keep up the good work.

In the letters page of issue #8, Malcolm Bourne theorizes that the Dinos are robots and or cyborgs but they just don't know it. The way Reese, Archie and Lorenzo act I don't think they know that they are Dinosaurs.

One final note, it is about time you start advancing the storyline towards revealing their origins. You don't have to give it away all at once but a few clues now and then would be nice.

Charles S. Novinskie
Grand Junction, CO

Chuck—if Reese, Lorenzo and Archie don't realize that they're Dinosaurs, do you really want to be the one to tell them?

Give away the origin? You realize that once that's done, I'll just come up with another meticulously clever plot to tease the readers out of their $1.95, don't you?

Dear Tom,
I've been a reader of *Dinosaurs For Hire* since the first issue and I truthfully thought that the book would fold after a few issues. But now *Dinosaurs* is on my must buy list, I think it is much funnier than your competition's so called humorous comics.

But I do have a few curious questions (aha!). I just picked up issue #7 and it lived up to my expectations except for one major flaw. What happened to Mike Roberts? I think Chuck Wojtkiewicz art is okay but Mike Roberts' tones breath life into the boys. Issue #7 lacked the depth in the art and everybody looked like they were on the same plane. I don't mind seeing different pencillers on *Dinosaurs* but not having Mike Roberts' inks and tones is like leaving the chocolate off a candy bar.

That said, I will be looking for issue #8. Long live the Dinosaurs!

Sincerely,
Arrow Kennedy
Tulsa, OK

The big question, of course, is why you thought the book would fold after only a few issues.

George Bush has been

MAILBOX FOR HIRE

President for over a year now and the nation still stands as tall as ever, mighty as an oak.

Notice how I've cleverly avoided making fun of your first name.

Yo Bodacious Dudes,
Boy, for a second (and just a second) I actually thought that the Thunder Lizards (great name for a band, huh?) had actually gone back in time. But then I realized that it was just a fantasy, a hoax, a dream, an excursion into the human psyche. All in all, I did like it. I thought that it was a very funny (especially the Edo Jokes), original issue. Oh Tom, don't you know that condoms break faster in a wallet than in, say, a dresser? So I would advise you to not make that joke again or I'll kill you. Leave the horn off, by the way. It will make him that much more sexier.

The one thing that really got my attention this issue was Chuck's work. After having just finished reading his work in *Nexus* and thinking that it was okay work, I was even more pleased to see how great his work was in this issue. The drawing of the fiancee on page 21, fourth panel, was one of the most beautiful ones that I have seen in a long time. The whole book was beautiful, as a matter of fact. I was highly impressed with this issue.

Well, see you next issue and keep up the good, no, great work.

Yours,
Galen S. West
Ridgecrest, CA

P.S. What happened to the end of the story? All of a sudden it just ended. No climactic ending, no easing into the last panel, just, boom, end of book.

All right, how's this for a weasly editorial answer: Issue #8 ended suddenly because it was a dream. Do your dreams ever come to a nice, full-rounded climactic ending? Mine don't. (And I'm pretty proud of this answer, too.)

Now, my question to you: Why do you want Lorenzo to be sexier? He is, after all, a very male Dinosaur.

Never mind. Some questions are better left unanswered, I think, particularly for the benefit of our younger readers (or the older ones who don't have cable).

Dear Dino's Club;
It makes me proud to see my favorite satire comic right out there on the cutting edge of creativity, with a strong pursuit to achieve originality. While *DFH* #8 was even more than I had hoped for, to see such unique subject matter as "ninja warriors" appear for the first time in comic shops will surely give rivaling companies new challenges in the marketplace. Hell, I went out and purchased a bag of "oat-bran-nacho cheese-flavored low sodium potato chips" in your honor.

While on the subject of commercial formulas, I've noticed only a single flaw in what I hope will be the longest running series (independent title) to date. Where is the infamous re-occurring nemesis??? It seems the basic ingredient in most long running comic titles and with the staff magic working on *DFH*. I'm certain it would be an excellent endeavor.

Imagine Tammy Faye Baker as the "Medusa" (you would have to be stoned to look at her) or something in conjunction with the upcoming holidays, such as Roseanne Barr as "Santa Claws," a psychotic mall shopper rampant in pursuit of the ideal sale and present.

I'm so hooked on *DFH* that I had a dream that Archie, Lorenzo and Reese appeared on "Wheel of Fortune." The professor abducted Vanna White and became fill-in hostess. I so enjoyed (in my REM state) watching Pat Sajak suffer this dilemma.

Alas, I'm certain *DFH* #9 will be yet another blockbuster in entertainment. Your work makes my worst days bearable.

What are the possibilities of *DFH* becoming a bi-weekly publication?

Gathering Attention To Preserve Rock n' Roll through Mandatory Retirement Age,
Aldo Yandell
Tucson, AZ

Thanks for the kind words, Aldo. I hope you can make it through the first few months of 1990 sans Dinos.

Bi-weekly? Snarf! Bi-weekly?

The re-occurring villain, by the way, has already arrived. You've only seen his hand, though. And his dog.

Next issue? Will success spoil Dinosaurs For Hire? *Hah! My deadline isn't for sixty days. And before I sit down to write it, I've got to come up with a design for the sugar-sweetened breakfast cereal box.*

See you on the supermarket shelves...and in front of the television set.

--Tom Mason

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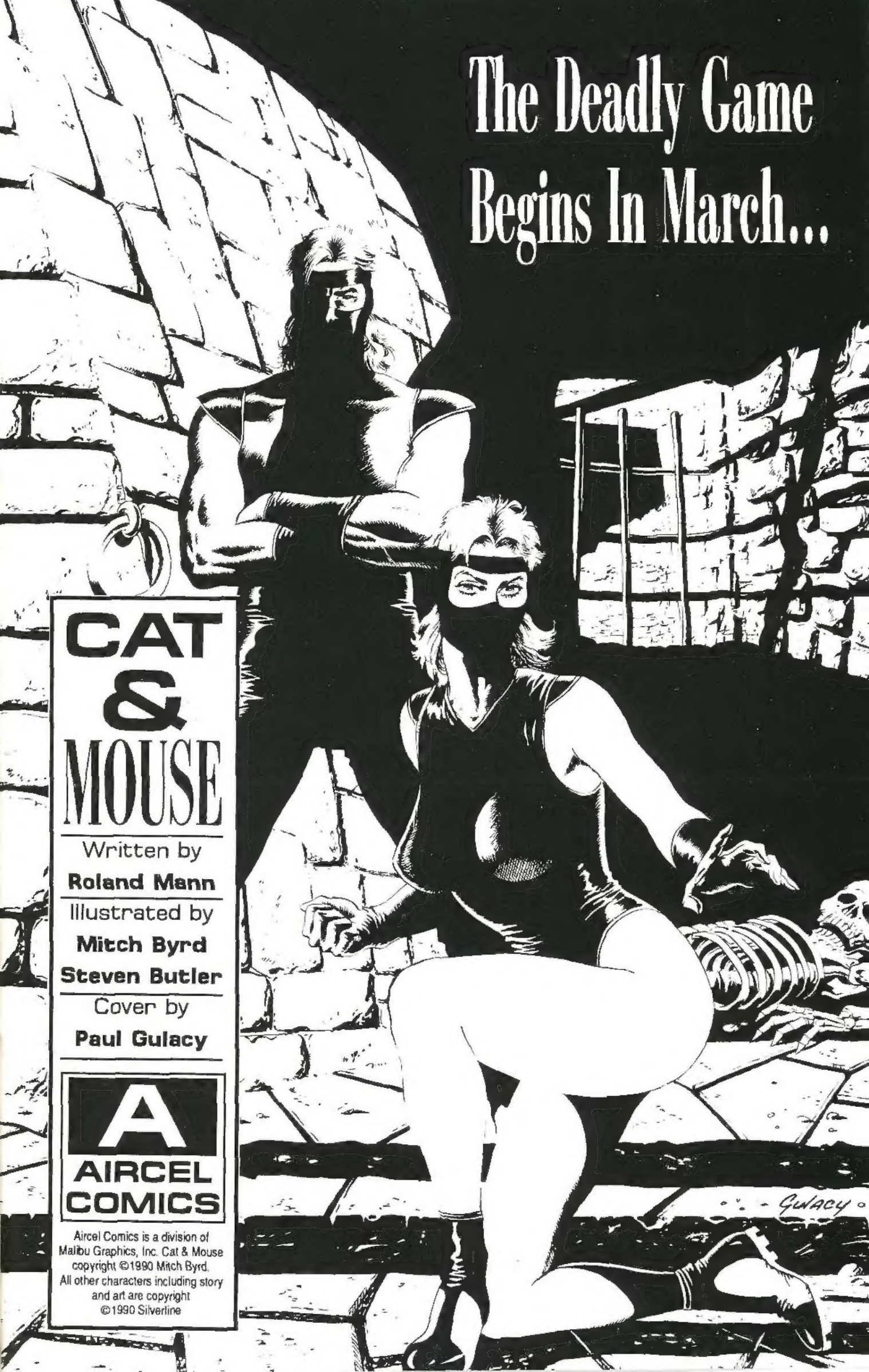
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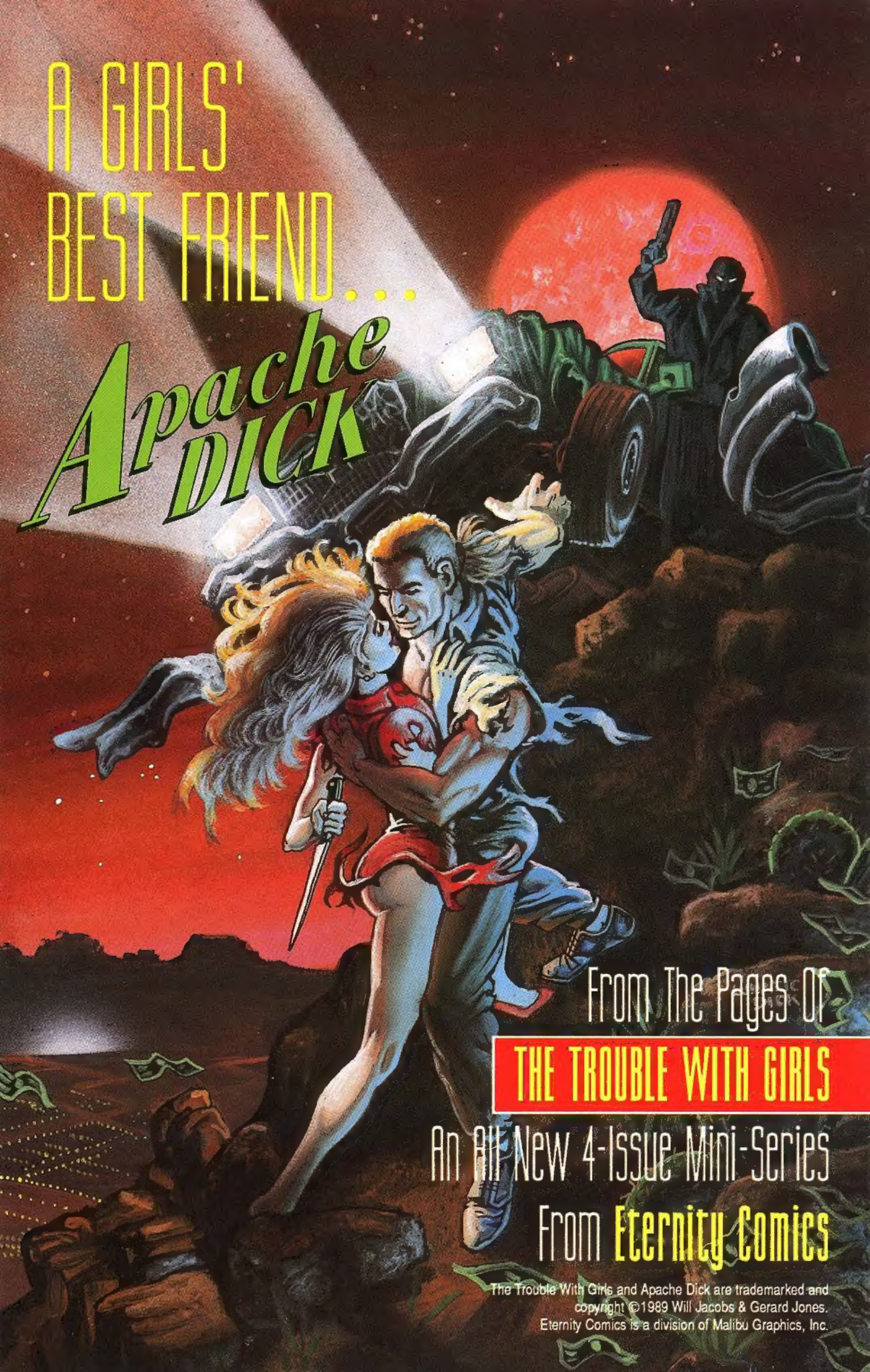
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